

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8. (Canceled)

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a shank adapted to follow an outer edge of a patient's cavum conchae;

an angled traverse segment connected with the shank and configured to be disposed above the patient's antitragus and to extend in a direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus; and

a broadened portion disposed on the angled traverse segment defining a bore configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper half of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower half of the patient's auditory canal.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 9, further comprising:  
a flexible signal conductor disposed in the broadened portion.

Claim 11. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal.

Claim 12. (Previously Presented) Earpiece for behind-the-ear parts of hearing acoustics devices, comprising:

a shank adapted to follow an outer edge of a patient's cavum conchae;

an angled traverse segment connected with the shank and configured to be disposed above the patient's antitragus and to extend in a direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus; and

a broadened portion disposed on the angled traverse segment configured to hold a signal conductor in an upper region of the patient's auditory canal and to prevent the signal conductor from covering a portion of a lower region of the patient's auditory canal,

wherein the broadened portion includes an auditory canal tab configured to be disposed only in the upper region of the patient's auditory canal, and

wherein the auditory canal tab defines a bore configured to hold the signal conductor.

Claim 13. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 11, wherein the auditory canal tab has a diameter that is less than a diameter of the patient's auditory canal.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the shank comprises a second shank connecting with the angled traverse segment and extending in an opposite direction to the shank, the second shank configured to follow the outer edge of the patient's cavum conchae.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 14, wherein the second shank is adapted to extend to a location behind the patient's antitragus.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) Earpiece according to Claim 9, wherein the at least one of the shank, the angled traverse segment, and the broadened portion is adapted for use with cochlear implant microphones, CI BTE processors, and BTE tinnitus systems.

Application No. 10/790,126  
Reply to Office Action of September 20, 2005.

Claims 17-29 (Canceled).